

It is a global problem with global implications. It is delicate; it is intricate; it is anything but simple. I think the American people understand this. They certainly need to know this. They need to know we will be fighting against AIDS and HIV for a long time.

The disease, death, and destruction it has left in its wake will not go away overnight, no matter what we do. Our amendment today will not completely solve this problem. It will not make AIDS go away, but it will help. It will begin to make a difference. It certainly can make a difference. The resources this amendment will provide will, in fact, save lives.

Let there be no mistake about it; passing this amendment will save thousands of lives. It will save lives because the resources we will provide by this amendment will go to organizations, groups, doctors, and nonprofit organizations that are already in the field, already are in these countries, that have already proven they have the ability to go out and do the job. So in this regard, it is very simple. There are things we can do right now to save these lives and to make an immediate difference. For example, as I said Friday, I have had the opportunity to travel to Guyana and Haiti in this hemisphere and, as we did this past summer, along with Senator FRIST and other Members of the Senate, we traveled to the southern part of Africa, where we had the opportunity to see doctors and organizations in the field doing the work. They were already saving lives and they looked at us and, in so many words, said: Give us the resources, give us the help, give us the assistance we need so we can expand the work we are doing.

We saw them in place. What this bill will do is to give them more help and assistance so they can expand their work, treat more people and help save more lives.

I think the most striking example of this is when we see a mother who is HIV-positive, we know the facts are if she is HIV-positive when she is pregnant with a child and about to give birth, the odds are 30 percent that child will be HIV-positive and that child will be condemned to death. We also know, though, that for as little as \$3, that mother can be treated and the odds will be reduced from 30 percent to 5 percent or 4 percent that she will give birth to a child who will be HIV-positive. We can give lifesaving drugs and that lifesaving treatment for a very small amount of money, for the cost of two cups of coffee in the United States. We can do that, and we need to do it.

In addition to fighting HIV/AIDS, we must remain vigilant in our efforts to fight other global epidemics. That is another reason this amendment is so important. The funds it provides, in addition to fighting HIV/AIDS, can be used to fight the spread of tuberculosis and malaria. These are two diseases we have the ability to fight, two diseases we have an obligation to fight.

Like HIV/AIDS, the statistics are staggering. According to the World

Health Organization, tuberculosis kills 2 million people per year. It is estimated that between 2000 and 2020, nearly 1 billion people will be newly infected by TB; 200 million people will get sick from it; and 35 million people will die from it if the control of it is not further strengthened. TB is a leading cause of death among women of reproductive age worldwide and it is estimated to cause more deaths among this group than all causes of maternal mortality. With an estimated 3 million new cases of TB each year, Southeast Asia is the world's hardest hit region. In Eastern Europe, TB deaths are increasing after almost 40 years of steady decline. More than 1.5 million TB cases occur in sub-Saharan Africa each year. This number is rising rapidly, largely due to the high prevalence of HIV.

The fact is, people who are HIV positive or who already have AIDS are far more susceptible to acquiring tuberculosis. Their compromised immune system, quite simply, has a very difficult time fighting off the TB infection. As a result, TB is the leading killer of people living with HIV/AIDS. One-third of people infected with HIV would develop TB—one-third. At the end of the year 2001, 13.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS were coinfecting with tuberculosis.

In Africa alone, more than 50 percent of individuals with active TB are also HIV positive. And in Asia, TB accounts for 40 percent of AIDS deaths.

The spread of malaria is equally troubling. According to the World Health Organization, over 40 percent of the world's children live in malaria epidemic countries. Each year, approximately 300 to 500 million malaria infections lead to over 1 million deaths, of which over 75 percent occur in African children. In fact, every 30 seconds an African child dies of malaria.

As with HIV/AIDS, there are some relatively simple things we can do to help prevent these needless deaths. For example, insecticide-treated nets have been shown to reduce mortality among children under 5 years by approximately 20 percent. This translates to the prevention of almost half a million deaths each year in sub-Saharan Africa alone. Simple items such as these nets can cost as little as \$1.50, while a year's supply of insecticides to retreat a net costs from 30 cents to 60 cents. Yet a recent "Child Survival" series in the British medical journal *The Lancet* concluded that:

Fewer than 5 percent of children in regions of Africa with very high prevalence rates of malaria are using insecticide treated materials to prevent malaria.

Again, as with HIV/AIDS, we as a nation and as a people have the resources and the ability to fight these preventable diseases. With this amendment, we can do so much good. So I say to the Members of the Senate, I say to my colleagues, we should not and we must not tolerate a world where so many people are suffering from HIV/AIDS

and so many people are suffering from malaria and tuberculosis. We simply should not tolerate a world where this suffering and dying occurs. And where we have the ability and where we have the tools to help make a difference and to save lives, we must act, and we must act quickly. We should not delay. We must act now.

Every 10 seconds, someone in the world dies because of AIDS. In just the short time I have been speaking here on the Senate floor—in just that time—at least 60 people have died because of AIDS. Those are lives that we can help save. Those are lives that I believe we must help save.

I urge my colleagues to join us, to join Senators DURBIN, COLEMAN, WARNER, DASCHLE, LEAHY, GRAHAM of South Carolina, ALEXANDER, SANTORUM, COLLINS, SMITH of Oregon, BINGAMAN, CORZINE, BROWNBACK, LUGAR, ROBERTS, HAGEL, DOLE, SPECTER, HATCH, CLINTON, and KERRY in supporting this amendment. This amendment will mean more lives can be saved. It is as simple as that.

I yield the floor.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived and passed, under the unanimous consent agreement we are now in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:44 p.m., recessed until 2:18 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. VOINOVICH).

#### FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Senator LEAHY asked that I fill in for him for the next little bit. We have an amendment to offer. We have no one here from the majority, but I am very confident there is no problem with the Senator from North Dakota offering an amendment. I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be set aside so the Senator from North Dakota can offer his amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from North Dakota.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 1994

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant clerk read as follows:

The Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN], for himself and Mr. SCHUMER, proposes an amendment numbered 1994.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.